

The Gallaudet Guide, AND DEAF MUTE'S COMPANION.

An Independent Monthly Journal, Devoted to the Interests of Deaf Mutes.

VOL. I.

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NO. 3

**The Gallaudet Guide,
AND
DEAF MUTE'S COMPANION.**
PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST OF EVERY MONTH BY
"THE NEW ENGLAND GALLAUDET ASSOCIATION
OF DEAF MUTES."

Devoted to the interests of Deaf Mutes in
particular, but designed to contribute to the in-
formation of all.

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From the Philad'a Sat: Courier.

Columbia our Union Forever.

BY JOHN CARLIN, A BORN MUTE.

Hail glorious home-land of our own Washing-
ton!

Columbia three-fold blest,
The haven of the oppress'd!

All joyous swell our hearts at her renown,
Her bright prosperity,
Her grand futurity,—

Her eagle soaring wide on shielding wing,
Inspires all true Americans to sing—
Columbia our Union forever!

Long basking in God's glorious favor,
With power and peace will her concord in-
crease.

Unblighted by dread strife forever!

Inspired with patriotism glowing bright,
With God's protecting hand,
For our long-suffering land,

Our fathers bravely stood the gory fight,
Till came their victory
And joyous liberty,—

Her stars and stripes, aloft in martial fame,
Floating triumphant on the breeze, proclaim—
Columbia our Union for ever!

Exercising her great moral lever,
With defences secure, her fair fame will en-
dure,
Respected by nations for ever!

Our genial homes we've rear'd through out the
land,

T' enhance our happiness,
Amid the smiles of peace;
And altars in our midst by God ordain'd,
Religion's safest sphere.

His worshippers to cheer,—
Our mothers, sisters, wives,—who's gentle
sway

We love to feel,—with hearts elate ray,—
Columbia our Union for ever
Enrich'd by the Heavenly Giver.

Her glory divine will effulgent shine
Untarnish'd by discord for ever!

Her Commerce, Sciences and Arts so fraught,
With most benignant health
And over-flowing wealth,

And our proud sovereignty elate, the thought
Of our fair land's extent
Vast and magnificent,—

Oh! let all freemen of the North, the West,
And of the South their fealty attest,—
Columbia our Union for ever!

Enshrining the words of her Saviour
In his Farewell Address, ne'er her Union will
cease,

But integrally live on for ever!

My Trip to Lake Superior.

Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.

FLINT, MICHIGAN, Jan. 20, 1860.

EDITOR OF THE GUIDE.—After a care-
ful perusal of the first number of the
Guide, we feel able to give it the praise
it deserves. It is a model newspaper
for deaf-mutes, and if it should be con-
ducted with wisdom and energy, it will
deserve the patronage of every friend of
the cause.

I deem it advisable to write an ac-
count of my vacation voyage to Lake
Superior and my visit to the mines there,
for the perusal of the readers of the
Guide, who may wish to get information
of the mineral region in that vicinity. I
invite them to go with me in imagination
as I visit the principal scenes on Lake
Superior, while I endeavor to make them
share in the impressions they produced
upon my mind.

On the afternoon of the fifteenth of
July, 1859, I left Detroit in the steam-
er Illinois. I found her an excellent
boat in almost every respect. I was
bound for Copper Harbor, on the south-
ern shore of Lake Superior, where my
brother lives. As the steamer moved
from the wharf, many a joyful farewell
shout followed her. We ran past the
many noble ships at anchor, and our eyes
dwelt with delight on nice houses and
farms on the shore of Canada. We
sailed slowly through the St. Clair's flats,
which are a great injury to navigation.
The passage through these requires care-
ful pilotage. We regret that the "St.
Clair's flats appropriation" failed to pass
Congress last year, but still hope that
that body will soon make an appropriation
for the removal of these obstructions.
The hour of supper was six: at the first
tinkle of the bell, the passengers who
were unmarried, or who had left their
wives at home, started and rushed to the
table, but on finding that the ladies and
their partners had occupied all the seats,
they retired with cast down eyes—I
must confess that I was one of them. The
table was set thrice. In the evening
some of the passengers amused them-
selves by dancing while the band played.
It is customary for the steamers that
make excursions to and from Lake Su-
perior, to have, in summer, a band of
music in attendance. I retired to my
state room, and when we arose in the
morning, we found ourselves on Lake
Huron. From the deck we had a fair
view of the white sandy beaches of Mich-
igan. The land is covered with an ex-
tensive forest. I found it delightful to
lean on the rails watching the spray
which the boat threw up as she plowed
the water with her keel. The lake was
smooth, and the weather mild and balmy. I
felt refreshed by the change of air, and
therefore was confident that my resi-
dence on the borders of Lake Superior
for a month would conduce to the restor-
ation of my health.

Among the passengers were ex-collec-
tor Shoemaker, of Detroit, Miss Ada
Frink, of Dunkirk, New York, (the au-
thoress,) a celebrated literary Prussian,
whose name I am sorry to have forgotten,
Mr. S. C. Coffinberry, a celebrated law-
yer of St. Joseph Co., Mich., and some
other persons of equal celebrity. Mr.
Coffinberry remarked to me that he had
never seen such a multitude of persons
of marked refinement and intelligence on
any steamer in which he had ever sailed.
I made a very happy acquaintance with
him and Miss Frink,—I could not help
admiring the simplicity of that authoress,
and feel persuaded that that trait is
common to her class. I am indebted to
Mr. Coffinberry for his kindness in tell-
ing me the news which transpired on
board the steamer.

A rich dinner was served up, afford-
ing delight to those passengers whose
appetites were sharpened by the mild
breeze and the journey.

By the time we had reached Mackin-
aw it began to be dark. We had oppor-

tunity, however, to visit the fortress
standing on elevated ground, about 200
feet above the water. From the fort
we had a beautiful view of the extensive
lake, the town and the harbor below,
and particularly of our boat, the lights of
which shone as if they were stars.
Night coming on we had no opportunity
to visit the natural curiosities known as
the "Arched Rock," "Sugar Loaf,"
"Lover's Leap," "Robinson's Folly,"
and "Devil's Kitchen." If any of the
readers of the Guide should happen to
go to Chicago by the lakes, or to Lake
Superior, I would advise them to stop
at Mackinaw to visit those curiosities till
another boat comes to convey them to
the place of their destination. They are
well worth the attention of the traveller
and lover of nature I am informed.

When we went on deck the next morn-
ing, we found that after a run of 95
miles, the steamer was at Sault St. Ma-
rie, and the St. Mary's ship canal was
in sight. It connects the navigation of
Lake Superior with the lower lakes. It
introduced steamers and vessels into
Lake Superior in the year 1855. It is
one mile and 304 feet long, and 12 feet
deep. As we passed through the canal
our eyes dwelt with a great deal of ad-
miration on the work. Congress grant-
ed 750,000 acres of land to the Legislature
of Michigan to aid in the construction of
the canal. This grant of 750,000 acres
was made to the St. Mary's Ship Canal
Company if they could complete the work
within two years from the date of the
contract which they made with the com-
missioners appointed by the Governor
of Michigan. In the spring of the year
1853, the company commenced the work
and though they met with many obstacles
in their progress, triumphantly complet-
ed it within the time designated in the
contract, I wonder that they could have
finished the canal within two years! The
company were an energetic and perse-
vering people. As we sailed through
the bays lying between Sault St. Marie
and White Fish point, we were struck
with their beauty and the grandeur of
their shores. The literary Prussian ear-
nestly took outlines of the scenery of the
shore. The passengers looked at them
admiring his skill with the pencil. White
Fish Point presents a striking and grand
appearance. It has a light house about
75 ft. in height, and "sand-dunes" or hills.
Now we were on Lake Superior. The
lake was as smooth as glass, and the sky
as fair as if it had never been darkened
by a storm. The air was deliciously mild
and pure. Every thing around me seem-
ed to me as if it were keeping the Sab-
bath. While I sat in the ladies' cabin,
Mr. Coffinberry, in behalf of the passen-
gers, applied to me to entertain them in
mute language, and I did so. The next
morning he composed a piece of poetry
on this entertainment, and gave it to me.
The piece is as follows—

"A proud boat plowed her way along the
shore

Of Lake Superior, where the granites look
Like castles that we read of in the ancient
lore,

Whose turrets to the arch of heaven proudly
reach.

'Twas a calm, a sunlit and a holy Sabbath
day:

The restless boat still kept her onward way.

Upon her decks and in her cabins there
Were those of every country, every clime,
The old, the young, the lovely and the fair,
And babes, like dew drops in the morn of
time,

Or like sweet op'ning flowers that yield life's
ripened fruit;

Among them, unobtrusive, sat a voiceless
mute.

At length, by gestures and by signs he spoke
Thoughts of grand import, to those who saw,
And by his voiceless language, in each bos-
om woke

Solemn wonder at the mysterious law
Which guides the intellect of mutes and speak-
ing men,

And has, since first the universe began.

There stood the mute, and his silent signs
Spoke fear, hate, love, and horror and de-
spair,

He spoke of God, Immaculate—Divine—
A solemn presence filled the very air,

For, in that poor deaf mute each auditor could
see

God in his goodness and his high Divinity."

S. C. COFFINBERRY,
Constantine, St. Joseph Co., Mich.

Steamboat Illinois, Lake Superior,
July 18th, 1859.

We were in extacies when we were
told that we could catch sight of the
"Pictured Rocks." These rocks are a
series of sand stone bluffs, extending
along the southern shore five miles, rising
in many places, perpendicularly, from
50 to 200 feet above the water. When
they came into view, we rushed
to the bow and applied our eyes
to opera and spy glasses and the tele-
scope, so that we might get a glimpse
of them. Their solemn nature awed us,
filled us with apprehension and hushed
us into silent reverence for them, for I
felt God was present in his works; I
think they are the most striking of all
the natural features of the scenery of
Lake Superior. We surveyed the "Min-
ner's Castle," one of these natural curi-
osities, with the closest attention. It
bears a strong resemblance to the turreted
entrance and arched portal of some
old castle—that of Dumbarton, for in-
stance. We could not get any clear
view of the Chapel, the "Amphitheatre
or Sail Rock." It is supposed that the
lake has been excavating the "Miner's
Castle" for many centuries. The "Pic-
tured Rocks" often appear in imagination
before my mind now, making solemn im-
pressions upon it. As we drew near
Marquette, 60 miles from these rocks, a
storm arose in the West and was attend-
ed with flashes of lightning. The lake
became angry and its waves dashed hard
against our boat. She ploughed through
the water nobly and steadily, and reach-
ed Marquette safely. She was detained at
the harbor until the surf abated.

Marquette is a very handsome town,
situated on a nice slope of ground, and
numbers about one thousand and one
hundred inhabitants. She has several
iron mines in her vicinity.

Our voyage, the next morning, was
somewhat unpleasant. The weather was
foggy and wet. I was sorely disappoint-
ed because our boat did not land at Cop-
per Harbor, on account of the fog. I
was offered a passage back to Ontonagon
free of charge.

The conversation of Mr. Coffinberry
turned this sorrow into pleasure.

In the evening we reached Ontonagon.
It bids fair to be a large town, and has
about one thousand inhabitants. Near
it, is a productive mine known as the
"Minnesota mine." Silver is sometimes
found in this mine. Many of the passen-
gers, among whom were Mr. Coffinberry,
Miss Frink, ex-collector Shoemaker, and
Judge Turner, of Zapeer, Mich., left the
boat to stay at this town for two weeks.
The boat weighed anchor in the night for
Detroit. At noon I reached Copper
Harbor, and a walk of two miles brought
me to the house of my brother, who was
much surprised to see me.

My vacation was spent in hoeing his
potatoes, haying, hunting pigeons, and
sauntering about the town of Copper
Harbor.

Fort Wilkins, a mile from the town,
was formerly a U. S. military post, but
is now a hotel and water cure hospital.
The fort is a resort for invalids. It is
beautifully situated on level ground be-
tween two lakes. When I visited the
fort, the air afforded me a refreshing
sensation. Its scenery almost tempted
me to board at the hotel.

Copper Harbor is said to be the best
harbor on Lake Superior. Vessels and
steamers are safe there during the preva-
lence of the heavy surf of the lake.

I found it very pleasant to look at the
spray as the waves dashed over the rocks

beyond Copper Harbor. I felt as if I
saw God in his strength there.

A week before my departure for De-
troit, my brother and I paid a visit to
"Copper Falls mines," about 3 miles
from Eagle Harbor. The captain show-
ed me a specimen of copper which he
found in the vicinity. If my memory is
good, it was about sixteen inches in cir-
cumference and weighed 24 pounds. On
it, there was a mark cut by a wedge, and
it is supposed that the Indians must
have wrought it when they worked in a
mine somewhere in this region in days
long gone by.

Our guide who was an Englishman by
birth and had been a miner in England,
conducted us into a slanting shaft leading
to the mine, each of us holding a candle
in our hands. It pleased me to see so
many candles shedding their light in ev-
ery direction in the mine. A miner led
us to the "Owl Creek Vein" where there
was plenty of copper. I got three spec-
imens from the vein and pocketed them.
On being told by the miner that there
would be a blast soon, it made me trem-
ble and think that the rock above would
fall on us. I was startled when blast
followed blast in quick succession. My
friends laughed at my fears. After the
explosion was over, we went by another
way out of the mine, and were refreshed
by the air.

In this shaft, there is a rail track on
which the ore is carried in boxes to the
breaking house. There it is broken into
small pieces and conveyed thence to the
crushing house, where it is stamped and
sifted till only a fine powder remains;
this powder is taken to the works where
it is shaken in water until much of the
earthy matter is washed away. The re-
maining matter has more the appearance
of mud than copper, and is piled in the
yard for shipment. The next day we
visited the "North West mine." We
did not enter the shaft, as time would
not permit.

Before my visit to the mines, I thought
that miners were a poor and lean people;
but was surprised to find them well built,
cheerful and happy. They work in the
mines through all the seasons, (if they
are productive). It is cold in the mines
in summer and warm in winter. Copper
veins always run in a north and south di-
rection.

At 6 P. M. we started on horseback
for Copper Harbor, about 12 miles from
the "North West Mine" through the
woods.

It tired me to carry the bundle of spec-
imens, which I had collected in the mines
while riding; but I would not for this
give up those precious things. Some of
them are beautiful to the eye, and I
prize them.

We reached home at 9 P. M. very
tired and hungry.

The next week I made arrangements
for my departure to Detroit. On the
15th of September I embarked in the
steamer North Star, the fastest boat on
Lake Superior. My voyage down the
lakes was unpleasant, as the season was
cold, and kept me in doors. When the
boat touched the landing at Detroit, all
was confusion and bustle.

I returned to the Asylum safely, and
am thankful to God for his kindness in
preserving my life during the journey.

The price of a ticket for an excursion
from Detroit to Lake Superior and back
is about forty dollars. This is a very
pleasant and cheap excursion for the
pleasure seekers. W. L. M. BREG.

The marriage of a deaf and dumb cou-
ple was recently celebrated at Ulm, a
town in Wurtemberg, Germany. The
government had at first refused permis-
sion, but it was subsequently granted,
on the director of the Deaf and Dumb
Institution at Gemuna declaring that the
state of the parents would have no influ-
ence on any children that might be born
to them.

THE GALLAUDET GUIDE, AND DEAF MUTE'S COMPANION.

BOSTON, MARCH, 1860.

Our readers will see that the present number of our paper contains a very long legislative report. The subject being one of importance, we have thought best to let those interested say what they chose about it; there are some things said in the report referred to, with the tone of which we do not agree, although we dispute no assertions, yet, as a reporter, we felt bound to give the different petitioners as much freedom of expression as was consistent with the size of our journal. We have given the doings of the Legislature, on the subject, in full as far as they have come to our knowledge.

The committee, we are sorry to see, reported leave to withdraw. The report of the committee was accepted by the Senate without debate—in the House on motion of Mr. Kimball, the report was laid on the table. We have yet some hopes for the success of the enterprise, when the matter shall be taken up in the House for consideration. The Senate seem to have looked at the present, and imperfectly at that, we hope the House will look at the future, and that they will be far sighted enough to cause a full and thorough investigation to be made into various reasons for and against the project, and finally make a report which shall be the result of an unbiased judgment on the part of the members. There seems to be a disposition, on the part of the House, to favor the project, but there is not much probability of any definite action being taken on it before this number of our paper goes to press.

We are aware that we have a powerful influence to contend with, especially that of the Principal of the Asylum, in regard to whose letter to the committee, we have only to confess that we admire the sagacity and Yankee ingenuity which is displayed in the deference of his position.

When the committee on Charitable Institutions paid their annual visit to the Asylum at Hartford, we had the pleasure, in company with Messrs. Geo. Homer and Amos Smith Jr., of going with them. The Asylum appeared to be at the height of its prosperity. Both the Asylum and the city had undergone so many changes, that we hardly knew our way in either. We, personally, remained at Hartford for some days after the gentlemen had left. During our stay, we received many favors, for which we return our acknowledgements. We visited the world-famous fire-arms manufactory of Col. Colt, where we saw much to admire and much to interest us. The arms made here are the most perfect in the world; if any of our readers have a use for fire-arms, either for sporting purposes or personal protection, we advise them to buy of Col. Colt. The length of several articles in this number, does not give the usual variety of subjects, and, moreover, obliges us to lay over to our next issue some part of our correspondence.

PERSONAL. We regret to notice the sudden decease of Hon. James Clark, brother-in-law of Chas. Barrett, Esq.

We learn that Chas. Barrett, Esq., of whose illness we spoke in a former paper, is in a fair way to recover.

Since our last paper was issued, we have received more requests for the Jan. number; we are sorry we can only repeat that all future subscriptions will begin with the February number.

We acknowledge the receipt of the reports of the Ohio and Wisconsin Institutions for the Deaf and Dumb. Both are filled with interesting matter and are worth perusing;—Ohio reports 158 as the number of pupils in school, Nov. 1st, 1859. Wisconsin, at date of report, had 73.

We have to acknowledge the receipt from some unknown friend in New York City, of a number of interesting sketches, which we shall make use of from time to time; such favors are always welcome.

Legislative.

On Wednesday forenoon, Feb. 8th, the principal persons interested in a school for deaf mutes within the State of Mass., had a hearing before the Committee of Charitable Institutions.

We can do no more than give a brief abstract of the several addresses.

Geo. Homer, of Boston, spoke first, to the following effect:

MR. HOMER'S ARGUMENT.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee:—

I come before you in behalf of the deaf-mutes of Boston and vicinity, to speak on the subject, now before the Legislature, of a school for deaf-mutes within the State.

I am a native and a resident of Boston; I was educated at Hartford, where I remained five years and a half, most of which time I was taught by the late Rev. T. H. Gallaudet himself. I approved of Dr. Howe's petition to the Legislature of 1844 on the same subject, and hoped it would pass, and although outside influence prevented it, yet I have always, since then, thought such a school was necessary.

I do not mean to injure the interests of the American Asylum, and I admit that it would cost the State much more than it now does under the present arrangement with Hartford. Mass. is one of the oldest and most distinguished States in the Union; she has more deaf-mutes within her borders than any other State; she has enough to keep such a school in operation and she should have one, and have it now.

Should our petition be rejected on the score of expense, I would recommend that the Legislature propose to the Directors of the American Asylum to allow a school committee of two, of whom one should be an intelligent and experienced deaf-mute, to be appointed by the government of each New England State, who may exercise some power in the examination of affairs, instead of the appointing power of the Principal and his combined faculty; who shall annually visit the school for the above purpose. The principle on which the committee act, to be the same as that by which the school committees of Boston are governed.

I am aware that the American Asylum is a private institution, yet I think it only fair that these States should have some power there, in consideration of the large number of children they have under instruction and the large amount they pay yearly. I have no doubt that such an arrangement would have good effect.

I was far from being satisfied with the school on my recent visit with the committee. I charge that some of the teachers are inefficient and not suitable persons for the work in which they engage. The Directors rarely, if ever, examine the school—they know nothing of the sign language which is an essential quality, in order to be able to judge of the capability of the teachers, or of the merits of the family government.

Should the school we ask for, be established, I would recommend that part of the Board of Trustees or School Committee be deaf-mutes, so that the board might stand a chance of knowing for themselves, what was going on.

I think the sexes should be educated in separate schools, with a considerable distance between; the females under the care of competent females, and the males to be attended to by male officers and teachers.

Under this system they would, I think, be better educated, and some who are now unwilling to send their children to school would have reason to change their minds, and a larger number of Massachusetts mutes would receive the advantages of an education.

Hoping you will see your way clear to report a bill, I leave it to my junior to make the closing address, as the youngest man should do the hardest work.

Amos Smith, Jr., thereupon commenced the closing argument for the petitioners.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee:

I come before you as the representative of a large and respectable body of petitioners, in behalf of five thousand legal voters of Mass., representing many millions of her taxable property, I appear in behalf of my brethren bereft of the faculty of hearing and speech, who, for what education they have enjoyed, are indebted, in a great measure, to old Hartford.

We are governed by no feelings of hostility towards her; we come before you with her many hallowed memories in our hearts;

we come here loving her, "with all her faults loving her still." We ask for a school for the deaf and dumb within our own borders, for the following reasons:

1. Because, if anything is unsatisfactory in the administration of affairs at Hartford, Massachusetts cannot, it being a private institution, do anything in the premises to bring it right.

2. Because Hartford has more pupils than she can do justice to.

3. Because Mass. has five hundred or more deaf and dumb children within her borders, and with her constant increase of population, it becomes a matter of positive duty, a matter of public policy, as well as of commendable State pride to have a school of her own.

There are twenty-one Institutions for the deaf and dumb in the country, all of which, with the exception of the American Asylum and the Kentucky Institution, are supported by appropriations from the public treasuries of the States in which they are located. No benevolent mind will doubt that for the expense incurred in the education of deaf mutes, the State has a full and adequate return; proportionally a larger return than in other departments of education.

The return consists in their mental and moral elevation; in endowing them with their birth-right of intellectual culture; in elevating them to the enjoyments and privileges of social life; in relieving society of the burden of their maintenance by enabling them with the education thus obtained, to earn their own living.

That Mass. recognizes the claims of her deaf and dumb children, is proved by the annual appropriation she now makes for their support.

The argument with some is that a large number of pupils is desirable in such a school, but I think that a disinterested observer will find a school of 150 pupils to turn off better educated graduates than one with 250. Another argument against the establishment of such a school, is the difficulty of procuring competent instructors. I have no faith in this argument.

There are men to be found who would make the occupation of teaching deaf-mutes a "labor of love;" men who, although of course they must be paid well, would yet earn their salaries by devoting heart and soul to the work; men who would be workers, hard, constant workers for the moral and intellectual improvement of the mute, in school and out, as well as in his after life; men, who will stay in their places, devoting their whole strength, and their whole thought to the work in which they are engaged. No others ought to be engaged in a deaf-mute institution.

We submit that our deaf and dumb children cannot be so well cared for any where as they would be at home; you are not obliged to pay so much for each pupil at Hartford as you would have to pay at home, because Hartford has a large invested fund and with the interest of this she can afford to put the annual charge low, yet we fail to see in what respect our children are as much benefitted thereby, as they would be if they were educated within the State at an increased expense.

This is not all; Hartford with her slow but sure increase of numbers, will, in a very few years, send word to Mass. that she cannot accommodate any more; Mass. will then be obliged to establish a school of her own, for no one supposes that she will drop the education of her deaf mute children if she cannot educate them out of the State; why not do it now without waiting to be compelled.

Passing by the testimony which he had intended to introduce, Mr. Smith went on to say that Hartford did not come up to the standard Mass. should require. She did not now compare favorably with the days of Gallaudet and Weld. He objected to the double dealing of certain teachers in the American Asylum. He contended that the appointments should be made with regard to the fitness of, and not from motives of sympathy for the applicant. He objected to the distinction in salaries existing between the hearing and the mute teachers, "distinguish," he said, "between the compositor and his devil, but not between two compositors." He said there were many parents unwilling to send their children to Hartford, and read a letter from Mr. Wilson Derby, of Weymouth, as evidence. He also read a letter from Mr. Carlin taking the same view of the whole matter as himself on this point. He paid his compliments in scathing language to those who had been pleased to impugn his motives.

The withdrawal of Massachusetts pupils from Hartford would only be leaving a vacancy soon to be filled by individuals from other states. It is to be observed that Hartford does not raise objections against this movement of ours, as she did in past years. Why is this? Simply because she sees that it will have to be done sooner or later, and as her interests will not be injured, she has no motive for opposition. This fact ought to speak in favor of our project. I do not agree with my colleague, Mr. Homer, in having separate schools for the sexes. I believe that, with a smaller number of pupils, a strict and vigilant oversight may be maintained, which should secure the moral elevation of the pupils, and I believe the influence of the sexes upon each other, by association, is good, when they associate openly, and that the society of each other is congenial to mutual improvement.

Our relations with Hartford, none but the best, forbid us to speak unkindly or ungratefully of her. Who can say that we have not been

"To her faults a little blind,
To her virtues very kind?"

The chief obstacle in the way of establishing the school we ask for, is, as I am well aware, the expense, but considering that it must be done some time, and probably may be done cheaper now than by and by, I put it to you whether it is not best to dismiss all figures from your mind and take into consideration the advantages which will accrue to Massachusetts by the establishment of such a school. A grant of ten thousand dollars would be gratefully received, and furnish means for a beginning. Is not the State as much bound to provide the means of education for all her deaf and dumb children at home as she is for all her hearing ones? Massachusetts has her lunatic asylums, her almshouses, her hospitals for the sick, her asylums for the blind, which are her pride and glory, within her own borders; liberal provision which she has made within a few years, attests her care and provident thought for her feeble-minded youth; and must her deaf-mute children stand knocking for admission and be refused, because they have now a place where they can go abroad and be educated, with the fact even now staring her in the face, that even that will be closed to them in a few years.

Ours is a cause which has a strong hold on the sympathies of the people at large, and I think I have shown good and sufficient reasons why our petition should, at least, receive a favorable consideration.

Gentlemen, in appearing before you on this occasion, I have done so from a sense of duty to the State I love; to my mute brethren of Massachusetts; to the wife of my bosom; as well as to myself; and in the name of the Heavenly Father, who is my witness that I have, from this sense and none other, so acted, I make this appeal.

Mr. Smith's argument, of which the above is but an imperfect sketch, was very able, and claimed the undivided attention of the Committee for fifty minutes.

While Mr. S. was speaking, Dr. S. G. Howe entered the Hall.

DR. SAMUEL G. HOWE'S ARGUMENT.

I have heard the statements made by our mute friends on this occasion, before. I think they are unduly excited in this matter of alleged abuses at the Hartford Asylum. Yet I believe that the time is long since come for a school of deaf-mutes in this Commonwealth. I think one hundred and fifty is as large a number as should be collected in one school, and that our children who suffer under this infirmity, should not be sent out of the state for instruction. Every child is entitled as a matter of right to receive instruction as near his father's door as is practicable.

As to the mode of instruction: In 1844, Horace Mann and others objected that Hartford was committed to the old French mode of signs, and that there was no hopes of that Institution changing to the method of articulation, in which Mr. Mann as well as myself thoroughly believed. That system has never been persistently and fairly tried in this country, nor will be until Massachusetts tries it. I believe the pupils would get a better course of instruction in Massachusetts than they do in Hartford.

The number there is certainly too great. The best way would be to put each mute among speaking children, alone; but that is too expensive. I mean that if it were practicable, he would do better to have no intercourse with deaf-mutes. We must train these children for a world of speaking persons.

[Question by one of the Committee: "Then why should not the parents instruct the child at home?" Ans.—"Because they don't know how."]

A man of large fortune would do wisely to have his mute son taught at home by one or two teachers.

I think in a school one hundred is a large enough number.

As to the expenser, the experiment may be tried at a very small cost. I think we should try it for three or five years; erect no buildings: but hire a building in some country town, like Worcester, for instance; and board the children out in the town. At recitations, put the boys in one room, the girls in another; have no steward nor matron, and the result, in my judgment would be, that no buildings would ever be erected. The teachers, of course would be both hearing and mutes. I would discourage all intercourse among the pupils.

I do not say that no sign-language should be used.

Laura Bridgman is an example of how much their powers can be developed by care.

In Germany they take the children at six years of age and keep them till eighteen, and work over them as Germans only have patience to work. I have seen a young man there (of extraordinary talent) who could attend church and come home and repeat the whole sermon.

[Question by a member of the Committee: "How can they have any idea of sound?" Ans.—"Of course they have no idea of the sound, but watch the lips of the speaker, as all of us sometimes do, for instance, in a railroad car."]

As to the cost of the experiment: This State has eighty pupils at Hartford, and there are six private pupils there from this Commonwealth. \$12,000 to \$16,000, I should say, (as a very rough guess) would do to commence with.

Indeed, I think it would be better to begin on a still smaller scale, say, to take our girls, only.

By "experiment," I do not mean articulation. I consider that settled. I mean boarding the children out. Even with the blind, as difficult as it is for them to find their way through the streets, I should prefer to have them board out in different families.

For the blind become blinder, and the deaf and dumb more deaf and dumb from associating with one another.

And so it is as to reforming our young criminals.

The family is the basis of all society, and we should not depart from it. Even, as to Almshouses, if this community were sufficiently Christian, I should say the same: the poor we should have always with us, in our families.

I have got up several institutions. If I were to begin another, I should not make the same mistakes.

The great principle I take to be to divide the sexes; not in common schools, but in those where the pupils labor under any special infirmity; for the great thing here is to discourage intermarriage. I believe that in the next generation we shall see the fatal effects of departing from this principle.

If intermarriage were discouraged, or even prohibited by law, I think it would be well. It is not immorality that I fear from the frequent acquaintance of the sexes, but intermarriage.

I know of fifteen or sixteen cases of intermarriage among the blind.

Five-sixths of all the cases of accidental blindness occur to persons who are born to become accidentally blind; for instance, a chip in the eye that would not seriously inconvenience one of us, would destroy the sight of a man who had a constitutional tendency to blindness.

It is not only true that deaf-mutes would get more instruction from associating with persons that can hear, but also more pleasure; children receive a good deal of pleasure in a family from associating together, where one is a deaf-mute and the others can speak, for they learn to communicate by natural signs.

In a new school (say of one hundred) fewer classes would be required at first; say six or seven.

I do not profess to be an instructor of deaf-mutes, but have studied the subject.

Dr. Howe spoke with much force, tact, and ability.

The Hearing here closed.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

DEAR SIR:—As the subject of estab-

lishing a school for the education of deaf-mutes within your State is urged upon your attention at the present time, allow me to lay before you the following brief statement of facts respecting the Institution at Hartford known as "the American Asylum for the education and instruction of deaf and dumb persons," to which your deaf mute children have been sent by you for instruction for forty years past. This school, the first in the United States, was opened in April, 1817. It was sustained for a time by contributions made annually by the churches of Connecticut and subscriptions of individuals in different parts of the country, obtained by Messrs. Gallaudet and Clero, its first teachers. From these sources, about \$26,000 were secured. This enabled its Directors to defray the necessary expenses of its opening, to purchase the site it now occupies, and to commence building. In 1819 Congress gave the Asylum a tract of land in Alabama containing about 23,000 acres, from which in process of time, they realized about \$150,000. The establishment as it now is, including fixtures, furniture, &c., has cost not far from \$75,000. Its invested productive fund is about \$240,000, from which the income last year was about \$17,000. It has long been the policy of the Directors to use up annually the proceeds of the fund in carrying forward the operations of the Institution, and in enlarging its accommodations as required by the increase of its inmates; charging the pupils only what was needed to meet the balance of the expenses. The actual cost of boarding and teaching the pupils, including the expenses the last year, was \$177 each, while the charge to each was \$100; consequently the seventy-eight beneficiaries of Massachusetts actually received from the fund \$6,006. In this estimate no account is made of interest on the sum invested in the land, building and furniture in the Institution.

In 1824, the question was raised in Massachusetts, whether a school should not be established in that State for the education of her own deaf and dumb children. At the request of its Directors the Legislature of that and three other New England States appointed Commissioners to visit the school at Hartford, to look into its condition—its facilities for affording instruction—the state of its funds, and to ascertain upon what terms it would receive pupils from the States represented. They met in this city in January, 1825. After satisfying themselves from a thorough examination of the affairs of the Asylum, that it could receive and educate in a satisfactory manner all the deaf and dumb of New England, and at much lower rates than they could be taught in separate schools; they reported to their Legislature that it was expedient to make provision for the education of their deaf and dumb at Hartford. Their report was accepted by their respective Legislatures, which have made liberal appropriations for the object from that time to the present. Their beneficiaries have enjoyed all the advantages of the Institution, with a full and equal benefit of its funds in common with those of Connecticut. The price of board and tuition, which was at first \$200, was then fixed at \$115, and in the year 1834 was reduced to \$100, and has not since been changed.

The American Asylum, though incorporated by the Legislature of Connecticut and patronized by all the New England States, is in no respect a State Institution. It is a private corporation. Its affairs are managed by a Board of Directors chosen annually, who serve without pay. The Fund-commissioner and the Chairman of the Directing Committee, receive \$250 each, and the Treasurer \$100, annually, for services rendered. The salaries of the Instructors have never been large. The oldest and most experienced now receive \$1,600 a year, which is \$400 less than is paid to settled pastors in this city. The inexperienced,

deaf-mute and female teachers receive from \$500 to a \$1000 a year. The pupils are accommodated in a very comfortable manner, having good wheat bread and butter three times a day; meat twice a day; coffee in the morning; tea at night and a plenty of milk both night and morning; with puddings, boiled rice, pies and cakes frequently. They always have potatoes twice a day and other vegetables and fruits in their season.

There are now in the Asylum 225 pupils, in charge of a Principal and fifteen Assistants: a Steward and Assistant; a Matron and two Assistants and three Overseers of the workshops. Of those now here, 79 are State beneficiaries and 7 paying pupils from Massachusetts. We have room in the present building for 250 or 260 pupils. Until the natural increase of deaf and dumb in New England shall furnish us about 200 pupils without those from Massachusetts, we should prefer to retain them for the following reasons:

1st. We have accommodations for all the deaf and dumb in New England of a suitable age to be under instruction, which would be unoccupied if the beneficiaries of Massachusetts were removed.

2d. We have qualified and competent instructors, whose experience and skill ought not to be lost to the deaf and dumb whom we should not need and should be obliged to dismiss.

3d. We should be unable to carry out the present mode of classification which has for some years proved of great advantage to the pupils as well as to the teachers.

4th. We have books, maps, pictures and much valuable apparatus specially needed in a school for deaf mutes, which have been accumulating for forty years as the wants of our classes have seemed to require and which afford us facilities for advancing our pupils more rapidly than could be done in a new school for some years.

5th. We have a strong desire that the American Asylum, the mother of the twenty schools for deaf mutes in the United States, should continue to be as heretofore, one of the largest as well as one of the most efficient Institutions of the kind in the country. Such has been its acknowledged position as we gather from the published Reports of those other schools and from the general testimony of their teachers.

6th. We can for some years to come educate the pupils of Massachusetts, as well, to say the least, as they could possibly be taught within her own limits, and at about one-half the cost to that state.

The principle of classification alluded to in the 3d reason, we consider of great importance. We have about forty new pupils enter at the beginning of our school year—enough to form two large classes. One of these we make to consist of the most active and intelligent of those received. These are passed forward rapidly, not being retarded by any dull pupils. The second division is composed of those who learn more slowly, but being of nearly uniform capacity, none are discouraged by the superior attainments of a few of their class mates. By adopting and pursuing through the whole course this principle of classification, the progress and improvement of all is greatly promoted. For a time this arrangement would be interrupted here if the pupils from your State should be withdrawn; and in the small school which you would form, it could not be introduced at all. The average number of pupils for the last few years sent us from Massachusetts is fourteen; only ten of whom, on an average, have completed the full term of seven years. If these were to be gathered into a school by themselves, there would be seven classes consisting of from ten to fourteen pupils, requiring seven teachers. Whereas in a large school the same number properly classified could be as well instructed by four teachers. It must also

be obvious that the small school will be comparatively more expensive than the larger, and less effective inasmuch as the bright and dull children would be classed together.

Particular attention is paid in the American Asylum to the health and physical condition of its inmates. We have hospitals, medicine at hand, and careful attendants for the sick. The matron, from an experience of twenty years, has acquired a good degree of skill in the treatment of common diseases. When anything serious occurs, the physician of the Asylum is called in. There has been but one death and little sickness for more than two years past. We also give special attention to the manners, morals, and religious training of our pupils; endeavoring to fix good principles and to form good habits in place of the bad ones which not a few bring with them. That we have been successful in all cases, we do not presume to claim. A very few we have been compelled to dismiss as incorrigible. Some others have left us at the close of their allotted time, giving little promise for the future. But that the most of our graduates have done well since they left the Asylum, is a well-ascertained fact. They have generally remained with their friends, having engaged in the same pursuits with their brothers and sisters, and are now as respectable and useful as the other members of the family.

In conclusion, permit me to say, that it seems to the officers of the American Asylum, that the only question which the Legislature of Massachusetts has to consider is this:—Where can the deaf-mutes of the State be best and most economically educated? Certainly an old and well-furnished Institution, having all the appliances and conveniences found desirable and accumulated through an experience of forty years, with a large corps of experienced and faithful teachers, and ample means at command, ought to and can accomplish more in a given time than a new school. And if in addition to the free use of buildings, furniture, tools, stationery, and many other things, two-fifths of the actual cost of boarding and teaching her pupils is given to Massachusetts from the fund of the Asylum at Hartford, there can be no doubt, on the score of economy, what course her interest would lead that State to pursue. In a matter of so much consequence, little weight should be given to feelings of State pride. Besides, if Massachusetts sends her deaf-mutes to Connecticut to be educated, the latter State sends her blind to the former for the same purpose.

With this statement of our views and of the facts in the case, we must leave the decision of the question under consideration to the Legislature where it belongs; trusting that in the exercise of the sound judgment and good sense for which that honorable body has ever been characterized, the best interests of her deaf-mute children will be secured.

WM. W. TURNER, Principal.
American Asylum, Jan., 1860.

IN SENATE, Feb. 14, 1860.
The Joint Standing Committee on Charitable Institutions, to whom was referred various Petitions asking that provision be made for the education of deaf and dumb children within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have considered the same, and respectfully present the following

REPORT:

There are, at the present time, in the American Asylum at Hartford, eighty-six pupils belonging to this State, eighty of which are State pupils, and these enjoy equal advantages with others; no apparent distinctions exist. The whole number of scholars is two hundred and twenty-five, which are divided into thirteen classes; each class receives the undivided attention of one teacher, and, as far as the Committee were able to

judge, the whole course of instruction committed to faithful and efficient hands, which, in their judgment, creates the necessity for the establishment of an institution for the instruction of the deaf and dumb within our own Commonwealth, are as follows:

It is urged that incompetent teachers are employed at Hartford, that speaking teachers receive more compensation than mute teachers, while, at the same time, they are less competent, and that the discipline is inefficient, the internal regulations inadequate sufficiently to protect character and virtue, and that from the contiguity of the institution to the railroad, or the want of care on the part of the principal, pupils have lost their

Others who appeared in behalf of the petitioners made no charge against the institution at Hartford, save that the pupils were too numerous, and on this ground alone predicated their opinions in favor of providing for their instruction at home. The latter object is more than balanced by the advantages of classification connected with a larger number. Among those who propose a change, and advise that we dissolve our present relations with the American Asylum, there is a diversity of opinion as to the system to be adopted. Dr. Howe, whose opinions certainly are entitled to great respect, would distribute the scholars in families for board in such a community, and under such circumstances, that they might conveniently congregate at a suitable building for instruction. He would thus secure the benefits of association with speaking people, to which he attaches much importance, contending that they should be educated and fitted, as far as possible, to mingle with the speaking world.

The above proposition, though apparently plausible, we think is not faultless; its tendency would be to divide responsibility, and greatly to diminish that of the Principal, and essentially curtail his ability to benefit his pupils. To adopt this system, and thus dissolve our present relations with the American Asylum, would be to change a well tried and very successful course for an experiment of very doubtful utility.

As it regards the other evils mentioned we consider them as the accidents rather than the results of organization; and were we to establish an asylum for the deaf mutes in our own State, we could have no security against the existence of similar evils more than the American Asylum enjoys to-day, viz., an efficient principal and an able board of directors.

The commissioner of the fund of the American Asylum represents to your Committee, that the amount of the fund of said institution is \$310,000; in this fund Massachusetts participates in common with Connecticut; and it is administered on the same terms as if the grant of Congress from which it originated had been made to Massachusetts instead of Connecticut.

We learn that the actual cost of the institution for each pupil, the past year, was one hundred and seventy-seven dollars, yet in consequence of the application of the proceeds of this fund, we are charged but one hundred dollars per scholar.

We are assured that for some years to come, all the pupils of Massachusetts can be educated as well at Hartford as they could be within our own limits, at about one-half the expense.

This relation has existed forty years, and we think with the best results. Indeed, we believe the friends of the deaf and dumb have no cause to move for a change, but the most abundant cause of gratitude to the State for her patronage in behalf of that unfortunate class of our population.

We therefore report that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

LANSING J. COLE, Chairman.

For the Gallaudet Guide.

The late Comly Coates.

MR. EDITOR:—We (deaf-mutes living in Philadelphia) are, in general, speaking in the highest terms of your paper. We earnestly hope that your enterprise well

prove a success, as it deserves, and be patronized by every deaf-mute at home and abroad.

The writer of this proposes communicating to your paper occasionally, if you think it fit to publish his communications. He has not been in the habit of writing for a newspaper, but he is now persuaded by a particular friend to write for your paper occasionally.

The subject of this communication is a brief biographical sketch of our highly esteemed friend and companion, COMLY COATES, who departed this life on the 3d of May, 1858. This sketch will no doubt be perused with a good deal of interest. Mr. Coates was the son of Lindley and Deborah Coates, and was born in Lancaster county, Pa., on the 6th of January, 1833. He was admitted as a pay pupil into the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, at Philadelphia, on the 18th of October, 1842, in which he remained for nearly seven years. During his stay in the Institution, he generally bore a very respectable and exemplary character—respected by the teachers and other officers of the establishment, and beloved and esteemed by most of his schoolmates. Mr. Joshua Foster was his principal teacher, and was also my teacher, (for the subject of this sketch was my own classmate.) It was on the 11th of July, 1849, that he left the Deaf and Dumb Institution; and the teachers and pupils, in general, parted with him with much regret, yet with their best wishes for his welfare and prosperity.

In January, 1850, (about six months after leaving the Deaf and Dumb Institution,) he became an apprentice to the cabinet-making business, under the firm of Chandler & Way, at Hamorton, Chester county, Pa., about eleven miles north-west from Wilmington, Del., and served a term of three years. Some time after his getting free, he came to Philadelphia, where he procured employment as a cabinet-maker, in Register & Bell's Cabinet Warehouse, on Callowhill street; between Fifth and Sixth, at which place he followed his business till June, 1857, when his health became impaired by the dust, varnish, and close air of the shop in which he worked. He had also been troubled with chronic dyspepsia for a number of years. Then he took to travelling for the benefit of his health. But alas! that travelling did no good to his already declining health, and he grew worse and worse until he was brought back to Philadelphia very sick and almost helpless. As soon as he got somewhat better, he went to his mother's house in Chester county, Pa., early in July of the same year, where he staid till October, having had four relapses in the meantime, when he returned to Philadelphia considerably improved in health and spirits. He had given up his business as a cabinet-maker; but, however, remained in the city all winter. On the 2nd of April, 1858, he left Philadelphia, and went to Chester county for the purpose of learning to be a horticulturist. He had expressed his intention of coming back and trying to take charge of some nursery near Philadelphia in August or September, in order that he might be able to attend the meetings of our Lyceum, every Thursday evening, when the weather should permit. But alas! all such intentions and expectations were not realized. In about two weeks after leaving the city, he took sick, and expired, after three weeks' illness, on Monday night, the 3rd of May, between nine and ten o'clock. His principal disease was abscess of the bowels; and the physicians, on examining the corpse, ascertained that the liver, the blood-vessels of the stomach, &c., were mostly destroyed; his heart and lungs, however, were in perfect order. His remains were interred beside his father's grave in Lancaster county, on Thursday, May 6th.

Mr. Coates was the founder and first President of a literary class or Lyceum, composed entirely of deaf-mutes of both

sexes, such as bear a respectable character. After his death, the title of the association was changed to that of the "Coates' Lyceum," in honor to his memory.

I will now relate a very striking and remarkable coincidence, touching Mr. Coates' funeral, and the wedding of one of the female members of our Lyceum, on the same day.

While Mr. Coates was present at the meeting of our Lyceum for the last time, on Thursday evening, April 1st, before going to the country to learn to be a horticulturist, there was a debate on "Which is the more gloomy, a wedding or a funeral?" After a number of the members had given their different opinions on the subject, Mr. Coates took the floor, and gave as his opinion that a funeral was the most gloomy, making some appropriate remarks on the subject. That was the last night of his presence at the meetings of our Lyceum—indeed, it was the last time that we had the pleasure of looking on his pleasant countenance, little thinking that we were to see his face no more in this sinful world!

Now it will be seen that his funeral took place on Thursday, the 6th of May, and that one of the members of our Lyceum (Miss D——) entered into the holy bonds of matrimony on the same evening. The writer of this sketch had been invited to be present at the wedding, but when the sad intelligence of Mr. Coates' death reached him, at noon on the same day, he wrote a note to Miss D——, informing her of his death, and asking her to excuse him from being present at her wedding as he was so full of sorrow.

That evening our Lyceum held its regular meeting, but there were no exercises going on, on account of Mr. Coates' demise. After some remarks had been made in respect to his life and death, &c., our Lyceum adjourned.

Thus it is shown that a funeral is much more gloomy than a wedding. Truly, "in the midst of life we are in death."

I shall send you some more about Mr. Coates and our Lyceum next time.

A MUTE PRINTER.

PHILADELPHIA, February, 1860.

Presentation Party.

On the 23d of Jan. last, a large number of deaf-mutes assembled in Charlestown, Mass., to make preparations for New Year's presents to Mr. J. P. Marsh, class leader of the "Deaf-mute Christian Union." They decided to form a surprise party, and to keep it a secret from the Boston mutes.

The following officers were elected by ballot:

President: William K. Chase of Charlestown.

Vice-President: Thomas Ayers of Boston.

Secretary: Oliver Badger of Charlestown.

Treasurer: Albert F. Barnard of Somerville.

The President appointed A. F. Barnard and Alonzo Allard of Somerville, a Committee of Arrangements.

The reason why they made such preparations was that the Mutes of Boston had omitted their usual annual visit to Mr. Marsh, and they thought it ought not to be so.

The meeting was harmonious, and a handsome sum of money was subscribed, although none of those present were then rich. Mr. Marsh had been very sick for several weeks, and was just beginning to recover his health. On the evening of the 26th, these friends to the cause reached the house of Mr. Marsh, and proceeded to his room in single file, each individual carrying one or more articles.

Mr. Chase made an appropriate address. Mr. Marsh replied that he and his wife were highly gratified to receive such presents, and were also most grateful. He said that, before the well-known Bible class was established in Boston, his

first efforts in the Gospel mission were made in Charlestown, and now the mutes of that city had waited on him in a body to discharge a part of their debt of gratitude.

It was a complete surprise to Mr. Marsh and his family.

The articles which the party brought with them consisted of turkey, ham, flour, cheese, tea, coffee, and other luxuries.

Prayer having been offered by Mr. Marsh, they spent the evening in a pleasant and social manner. The party, including several lady friends, numbered about twenty. Before leaving, it was agreed to say nothing about the party to any one, but to leave it for Mr. Marsh to announce it the next Sunday. Most of the members of this party were not regular attendants at the meetings of the Union, yet they acknowledged that the Bible saying was true, "It is more blessed to give than receive."

After leaving Mr. Marsh's, the party repaired to a saloon in Boston and having refreshed themselves, started for home, where they arrived late at night, well pleased that their enterprise had been so successfully accomplished.

KENDRICK.

Many persons are apt to draw conclusions without due reflection or sufficient information.

The two last numbers of the "Guide" contain several articles written by deaf mutes. They are good specimens of language, but they are far better than deaf mutes are able to write, as a general thing. A deaf mute is often able to express his ideas by signs, fluently and eloquently, while an attempt on his part to put his thoughts on paper would be a failure. The communication below is a very fair specimen of the average attainments of deaf mutes. It is unsolicited, and we did not feel at liberty to reject it. We insert it just as we received it, with the exception of a few "trifling" corrections where they were necessary to make the writer's meaning clear.—[Ed.]

A Sketch of my Early Life.

When I was eight or nine months old, sores came on my head and neck and in my ears. My parents tried many remedies to help me; but medicines did not cure. I became deaf and could not talk. My parents were very anxious for me, and felt very bad for my misfortune. As I grew in years, I was quite ignorant as to learning or conversing. I did not know there was a God nor could learn only what I saw. My parents thought I was a very pleasant and good little boy, and they loved me very much. Many people thought it was a pity that I could not talk.

When I was about 4 years old, my grandmother visited an old lady and she left her thimble; she showed me her finger, sent me to this lady's house. I tried to get her to understand what I came for. I showed her how to put on the thimble and sew, and she ran and got the thimble and laughed very much at me. She called me "a dear little soul."

A lady hearing that I did not talk, she had a sister who had been to school in Hartford,—she came to see me, likewise her sister came. Her name was Miss Mary McVennan; she tried hard to learn me the alphabet, but I did not understand. Some more mutes came and visited me; one, Mr. Erasmus D. Preston of Hancock, N. H., often came to my father's shop. My father would write with him. He thought that I ought to go to school in Hartford. My father asked Mr. Preston what would be the expense; Mr. P. said the State would appropriate one hundred dollars to each pupil for board and tuition, and the parents or friends must provide other necessary expenses. My parents then concluded to prepare me with clothes sufficient for one year. My father took his horse and carriage, and started with me in the month of May; it was a beautiful warm morning, my grandmother, mother, and my little

sisters kissed me and cried. My mother felt very bad. I did not cry for I often caught a ride with my father, I thought it pleasant. I did not know but I should return with him. We had to travel to Worcester, Mass., in private conveyance, before we went aboard of a rail car. I was very much fatigued that day and wished my father to return home, and he helped me out of the carriage, and I hopped along; I then got in and we got to the cars safe. I was much surprised to see such things to ride in the following day. My father and Deacon Wilkins and son got in the cars and went to Hartford quick. When we went to the Asylum, it looked strange to see the girls and boys talk with their fingers; but I was pleased and wished to stay. My father left me. I staid 15 months. I learned to write to my parents. I was proud then to learn. Then we must go home. My father came again to Greenfield, Mass., and took me home; how strange everything looked. Then I could not call people's names, although I knew them in those years of childhood which have passed. I have seen many changes, for I can often look back and think them over, how I was in darkness as to knowledge of things of this Earth or Eternity. Farewell this time.

"EDWIN."

For the Gallaudet Guide.

Mr. Editor.—The sketch of an aged mute in the last number of the Am. Annals, is good, and few corrections are necessary.

In order to gratify the readers of your paper, I send you the following sketch:

Nahum Brown, father to the writer, was blessed to have lived up to the advanced age of 87 years, 3 months and nine days, when he expired August 4, 1859.

His death was calm as if he had fallen asleep.

Nahum Brown was always deaf and dumb. His knees were sometimes lame in consequence of his feet having been exposed to wet in his work; however, his constitution was vigorous and his health good. He was industrious up to his eightieth year. Five years before death, he was sick with a severe pain in one side of his head, one of his eyes became blind and the other dimmer and dimmer. One year before death, he was sick with a severe pain in the other side of his head; he was almost helpless and hopeless; after a month, he recovered from the severe attack, totally blind and helpless and needed the aid of two persons for one year, when he was taken sick with a dreadful disease in the head, and Death was merciful to release him. We do hope he has gone where "the deaf ear shall be unstopped and the tongue of the dumb sing."

During his helpless and blind situation, poor Father used to sign for either the writer, or Mrs. B. to come and see what he wanted. With his arms moving slowly, he understood the movement of our hands, and we did more for him than any of the family.

One day before death, he signed for the writer and his wife to come, and on coming she touched him, and he smiled to know us by him, and he signed that he would be buried soon and be free from such a severe disease.

Nahum Brown was born in Stow, Mass., in 1772. He was the fourth descendant from Jabez Brown, the first emigrant from England who settled in Concord, Mass. His grandfather, Joseph Brown, settled in Stow, where his father, Thomas, was born. His mother was Persis Gibson, of said Stow. Nahum was an only brother to eight hearing sisters, all now dead except one, who still survives, aged 85.

He was the first mute in the Brown family; the cause of his deaf and dumbness was unknown.

His parents and family arrived at Heniker, N. H., then almost a wilderness, in 1785. His father early deeded to him a tract of land.

He married a Miss Eastman, (a hear-

ing woman,) who is now living, in her eighty second year. They had two mute children, Persis and Thomas.

Nahum Brown's disposition was active, earnest and indulgent; his habits were energetic, industrious and punctual; as a friend he was ardent, true and funny; as a neighbor he was respectable and ready to return an act of kindness; he was a kind husband and an affectionate father.

His ideas of the Divine attributes were limited. An uneducated mute, he was a regular observer of the Sabbath. His idea of heaven was a holy city, where good men and women always visited each other on wings. What he hated and despised was dishonesty. He could not read, and could write nothing but his name: his hearing wife aided him about private business, and his intimate friends helped him buy and sell cattle and other things. He managed his farming business like an experienced farmer. The writer humbly hopes that his father may be an example of industry and honesty to be followed.

His funeral sermon, sent by Mr. Swett for insertion in the "Annals," is worthy of being inserted in the Guide.

Mr. Editor, the writer proposes, if convenient, to send for the April, or some future number, a sketch of his father's turn for jocular associations according to his young reminiscences. T. B.

[For the Gallaudet Guide.]

The Tattler.

LETTER I.

"I were better to be born dumb than to speak thus.—Wordsworth.

Mr. EDITOR.—The above line seems to admonish me to be dumb, since I have concluded to assume the character of a tattler. A tattler! It would indeed behoove me to be, instead of a tattling parrot, an oyster—the very embodiment of discretion, with which it always shuts its shells over its enormous tongue; and of mute dignity, with which its detached tongue glides down the epicurean's throat.

But, why should I not be a tattler, a term implying that one, destitute of brains, prates much about nothing, since Dr. Samuel Johnson was a "Rambler,"—a term which shows he was a lazy, good-for nothing fellow idling away his time?

Now, the question being decided that the great lexicographer was a rambler, Raphael Palette will be a tattler!

Well, my dear Editor, sitting in my Dutch rocking chair by the fireside in my dining-room, with the Feb. No. of the "Guide" open in my hands, I read Brother Mournoy's Remarks on Newspapers.

Before discharging in language my random thoughts suggested by the subject, which I have just finished reading, I shall say one word about my rocking chair, which, of all the furniture here, has monopolized my affection.

In the make, materials and air, this furniture, now moving gently with my body backward and forward, is Dutch all over. Instead of mahogany, it comprises four kinds of wood, as, white oak, hickory, cherry and black walnut, constructed together in the strongest possible manner; it is innocent of springs, moss and horse hair; but, out of real regard for my bones, Madame Palette made me a nice cushion for the barred back and hickory bottom. It's glory is the rockers, which are a marvel as regards their symmetry, specific gravity and ease of motion.

This chair was the last made by a Pennsylvania German minister.

A minister made chairs! Only think of a pastor, on Sundays,—clad in white choker and sable coat and inexpressibles—preaching to his congregation, and on the other days,—in linsey-woolsey trowsers, his shirt sleeves rolled up,—making Dutch rocking chairs! In him what a display of manly independence of soul, blended with genuine piety and humility! Let his example be imitated! Since he

has been gathered to his fathers, though not in his beloved Vaterland, I value my rocking solace highly as the last work of so noble a son of nature.

After my perusal of Mr. Flournoy's article was concluded, I pondered over the responsibilities of editors; their liability to personal indignities at the hands of enraged persons, on whose toes, figuratively speaking, they tread either inadvertently or intentionally; the mystery of their ability to live long without money, as, notoriously, their subscribers always forget to "pay the printer."

Proverbially fond of politics, many an indiscreet editor has, in the heat of party strife, pulled down an edifice of happiness around his ears, and it would be quite a miracle if he escaped death in the ruins. The editor of the Snogsville Bulletin,—in private life, a most amiable man, an affectionate husband and father and a friend in need,—receives a challenge to fight a duel with the editor of the Bunkumton Roarer. He considers it, looks at his loving wife, busily occupied in preparing his supper, and then at his children playing about with the ruddiest glow of happiness, and reconsiders the deadly ordeal.

"Your cowardice," whispers Old Scratch in his ear, "will be pointed at by the finger of Scorn."

"I am no coward," mutters the editor. "Then fight him like a man!" hisses the Tempter.

The editor, dreading the finger of scorn, writes his acceptance of the challenge; he meets his opponent, who has hitherto been his bosom-friend; at the first fire he falls, gasps out a breath or two and dies—a victim to the imaginary finger of Scorn.

Sneering most heartlessly at the wallings of his widow and children, Mephistophiles laughs from ear to ear, rubbing his hands with satisfaction, at the thought that the Finger of Scorn—a phantasm emanating from the imagination, overwrought by the opprobrium of cowardice, has driven one more soul to perdition; Mephistophiles is now at large, seeking for more Fausts.

Measuredly my chair rocks the thinker gazing vacantly into the fire.... Verily, Mr. Editor—though we have in our midst a good many journalists, as well as politicians, who are far more willing to have their cowardice pointed at by the finger of Scorn, than to bring misery upon widows and orphans by obeying the summons of the Duello—all the editors of all political creeds throughout the land, should and ought to exercise more moderation and conservatism, especially like H. J. Raymond of the New York Times, that our Union may live long, long in peace and prosperity!

As concerns yourself, the good sense and moderation of tone, which you have already shown in your editorial in respect to the propriety of establishing a new Institution for deaf mutes in Massachusetts indicate your ability to conduct the journal in a manner warranted to give general satisfaction to its patrons.

Yours, etc.,

Rap. Palette.

New York, February, 1860.

LARGE YELLOW FRENCH PUMPKIN. A few seeds of this pumpkin were received from the Patent Office, and the produce was several very large yellow pumpkins, weighing from 77 to 130 lbs. each. In a good season, and with good cultivation, they will weigh near 200 lbs. In quality they are intermediate between the common yellow and the "Sweet" or "Sugar Pumpkin." If any Guide Readers wish for a paper of seeds, they will please send 13 cents in postage stamps to

D. P. CLARK.

Peterboro, N. H.

MARRIAGES.

In Belfast, Me., Aug. 21, 1859, by John Greely, Esq., Mr. Charles A. Brown of B., to Miss Sarah Durgin of Bangor Me.

Mr. Brown is a deaf mute, a graduate of Hartford. His bride can hear and speak. Nov. 23, 1859, Mr. David White of Worcester, Mass., to Miss Sarah E. Morgan of Baltimore, Md. Both deaf mutes.

DEATHS.

Spencer Leonard, a graduate of the Hartford Asylum, died at Fairhaven, Mass., Jan. 7th, 1860, aged 45 years.